

Message Text

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21

ACTION EB-07

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TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, PE

SUBJ: MEETING OF LATIN AMERICAN SUGAR PRODUCERS, LIMA,
PERU, SEPTEMBER 28-OCTOBER 3, 1975

REF: LIMA 8234

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. THE THIRD MEETING OF THE GROUP OF LATING AMERICAN AND
CARRIBEAN SUGAR EXPORTERS (GEPLACEA) ENDED ON OCTOBER 3.
ALL TWENTY-TWO MEMBERS OF THE GROUP PARTICIPATED AS WELL
AS THE PHILIPPINES WHICH WAS ADMITTED AS AN "ACTIVE OBSERVER".

2. STATUTES FOR THE GROUP WERE DRAWN UP AND ACCEPTED. THESE
WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE MEMBER COUN-
TIES FOR APPROVAL.

3. AN EXECUTIVE BOARD WAS NAMED AS FOLLOWS: JORGE BRIOSO
DOMINGUEZ (CUBA) AS EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, ERNESTO RAMIREZ
SOLANO (MEXICO) AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, FRANCISCO
FREYRE RAMIREZ (PERU) AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ECHNOLOGY,
AND MANUEL DIAZ FRANJUL (DOMINICAN REPUBLIC) AS ASSIS-
TANT SECRETARY FOR MARKETS AND STATISTICS. THE NEXT
MEETING OF THE GROUP WILL BE HLED DURING THE FIRST WEEK

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OF MARCH, 1976 IN CALI, COLOMBIA.

4. THE GROUP ADOPTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF ITS COMMISSION ON MARKETS TO ESTABLISH NORMS FOR THE COMMERCIALIZATION OF SUGAR IN ORDER TO DEFEND SUGAR PRICES. THIS WILL INCLUDE TRYING TO AVOID "IMPROPER" SALES OF SUGAR (E.G. LARGE, UNEXPECTED SPOT SALES, ESPECIALLY THROUGH BROKERS), AND COORDINATING INFORMATION FLOWING FROM THE PRODUCING STATES ON SUGAR PRODUCTION, STOCKS, ETC. (WHICH MIGHT AFFECT THE WORLD PRICE). THE GROUP HOPES TO DEVELOP A SYSTEM OF TECHNOLOGICAL INTERCHANGE AMONG ITS MEMBERS. IN ADDITION, THEY HOPE TO DEVELOP MEANS TO COORDINATE THE POSITION OF THE SUGAR EXPORTERS VIS-A-VIS THE SUGAR IMPORTERS. THE GROUP CLAIMS THAT IT HAS THUS TAKEN THE FIRST STEP IN COORDINATING THE ACTIONS OF THE SUGAR EXPORTERS WITHIN THE INTERNATIONAL SUGAR MARKET.

5. THE GROUP AGREED TO COOPERATE WITH THE LATIN AMERICAN ECONOMIC SYSTEM (SELA) ONCE SELA IS FORMED BY COORDINATING ITS ACTIONS WITHIN THE GENERAL POLICY OF SELA. THE GROUP EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT SELA CAN USE THE GROUP'S EXPERIENCES WHEN CONSTITUTING OTHER, SIMILAR EXPORTER ASSOCIATIONS IN THE AMERICAS.

END UNCLASSIFIED

6. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. THE FOREIGN MINISTRY DIRECTOR OF BASIC PRODUCTS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETINGS OF THE GROUP EXPLAINED TO EMBASSY OFFICER THAT THE SUGAR PRODUCERS RECOGNIZE THAT THERE ARE ESSENTIAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SUGAR AND PETROLEUM AND THAT A CARTEL OF SUGAR EXPORTERS IS NOT FEASIBLE (ALTHOUGH, FROM HIS AND THE GOP'S POINT-OF-VIEW, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE). IN ORDER FOR THE SUGAR EXPORTING COUNTRIES TO BENEFIT, HE ACKNOWLEDGED, ANY MUTUAL ACTION ON THEIR PART MUST BE COORDINATED WITH THE SUGAR IMPORTING COUNTRIES.

7. HE ALSO NOTED THAT PERU AND ALL OTHER SUGAR EXPORTER WOULD FAVOR A REINSTITUTION OF U.S. SUGAR QUOTAS.
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